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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

[0029] (Currently amended) The reflective surface discontinuity 42 in each case is a non internally reflective portion of the outer surface 40 that does not support total internal reflection, except when it is contacted by the liquid 24 to be measured. The outer surface 40 provides total internal reflection for light propagating in the solid optical conductor 32, except in the region of the reflective surface discontinuity 42. In the reflective surface discontinuity 42, the removal of the material produces a non internally reflective surface that does not exhibit total internal reflection along any part of the non internally reflective portion that is not in contact with the liquid. Any portion of the non internally reflective portion contacted by the liquid 24 of lower refractive index than the solid optical conductor 32 does exhibit total internal reflection, so that the propagating light passes unimpeded through that portion. Figure 1 depicts exactly one reflective surface discontinuity 42 in each of the solid optical conductors 32, but there may be more than one reflective surface discontinuity 42 in each of the solid optical conductors 32. If there is more than one reflective surface discontinuity 42 in any of the solid optical conductors 32, all of the reflective surface discontinuities in that solid optical conductor 32 are positioned by the support 5 at support at the same height H above the bottom 28 of the volume 22.